

REMARKS

Claims 15-32 are pending herein with Claims 15, 28, and 32 being independent claims. Claims 1-14 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 27 was found to be allowable. The remaining claims have been rejected.

Claims 15, 26-28, and 31, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,045,851 to Cross. Claims 21, 22, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cross. Claims 15-26 and 28-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,337,084 to Stevens, et al. in view of Cross.

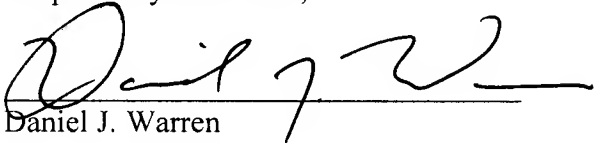
The Applicant has amended the independent claims to add the limitations of Claim 27. Specifically, the limitation that the extruder includes a cutter has been added. As is shown in the specification, the extruder 460 has a die and a cutter 480 attached thereto. *See* Fig. 1A and ¶¶ [0036] – [0038]. The cutter 480 cuts the dough into mini loaves of bread as the loaves leave the extruder. The cutter 480 is distinct from the cutter 770 found within the chopping station 750. *See* Fig. 1B and ¶¶ [0052] – [0055]. The loaves are comminuted in the chopping station 750 to form the bread crumbs of the desired size.

The Applicant thus submits that independent Claims 15, 28, and 32, and the dependent claims thereon, are patentable over the cited reference. The references simply do not show an extruder with a cutter and a separate comminuting or chopping device as is claimed herein.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant believes that it has responded in each matter raised in the office action. Allowance of all claims is respectfully solicited. Any questions may be directed to the undersigned at 404.853.8028.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Warren", written over a horizontal line.

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